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INFORMAL REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Siam

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25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. On 7 June 1948, the Plaza Theatre, devoted principally to the showing of Soviet films, was formally opened in Bangkok. The press reported that a large audience saw the first Soviet film, and that Nikolai A. Iytkin, Director of Soviet Export Film in Shanghai, arrived in Bangkok early in June to see that the films were properly presented.)

1. The lessee of the Plaza Theatre is a Chinese company, which issued invitations to the opening. Many Viet Minh members in Bangkok received invitations but the more important ones did not go. However, a number of secretaries and "small fry" attended.
2. No members of the Soviet Legation were present at the opening.
3. Attendance since the opening night has been poor despite comparatively low admission prices. The audience on the night of 20 June was made up almost exclusively of young Chinese students.
4. The films are of poor quality and generally do not contain propaganda. This is a source for disappointment on the part of the Viet Minh in Bangkok [REDACTED]

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